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SOURCE

Voprosy Razrabotki Ugol'nykh Mestorozhdeniy Podmoskovnogo Basseyna
(Problems in Working Coal Deposits of the Moscow Coal Basin), Ugletekhizdat, pp 9, 12, 15, 16, 104, 105.

PRODUCTIVITY OF THE MOSCOW COAL BASIN MINES

A. P. Sudoplatov

The Moscow coal basin is a wide, arch-shaped belt extending through Leningrad, Kalinin, Smolensk, Moscow, Tula, and Ryazan' oblasts. It may be divided into a western and a southern section, the western section being located in Leningrad, Kalinin, and, in part, in Smolensk oblasts, and the southern section in Moscow, Tula, Ryazan', and, in part, in Smolensk oblasts. The entire area of the Moscow coal basin, within the boundaries given above, covers 120,000 square kilometers.

The coal seams differ greatly in thickness, but seams ranging from 1.8-3.2 meters predominate. The seams lie in an almost horizontal position and as many as 12 may occur in one deposit. At the 17th International Geological Congress in 1937, it was determined that reserves in the southern part of the basin amount to 12 billion tons.

Moscow basin coals are usually divided according to their ash content into the three following groups:

1. Coals with a normal ash content, not in excess of 35 percent.
2. Coals with a high ash content, from 35-50 percent.
3. Carbonaceous shales, above 50 percent.

Moscow basin coal is mostly mined from the first group but, in part, also from the second. Moscow basin coals are also classified with reference to their origin from humus or sapropel as humic or sapropel coal. The volatile-substance content in coals of humic origin averages 42 percent, while in coals of sapropel origin it is 47.8 percent. The yield of resin is 11.3 percent in the case of humic coals and 47.8 percent in the case of sapropel coals, as a result of semi-coking. The yield of humic acid is 16 percent for humic coals and 4.1 percent from sapropel coals.

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The following table classifies Moscow basin mines in groups according to yearly productivity and indicates the percentage of the different groups in the entire basin output as of 1947:

<u>No of Mines</u> (percent)	<u>Yearly Productivity</u> <u>of Mines</u> (,000 tons)	<u>Share of Group in</u> <u>Basin Output</u> (percent)
17	Up to 99	47
18	100-149	
21	150-199	
13	200-249	53
10	250-299	
4	300-349	
4	350-399	
13	Above 400	100
Total 100	223 (average)	

The following table gives 1947 figures for labor productivity and production costs of one ton of coal for Moscow basin mines according to groups with varying yearly productivity. In this table, figures for mines with a yearly productivity of from 250,000-299,000 tons were taken as 100 percent. Only a small number of mines with a yearly productivity of 450,000-699,000 tons were considered, and therefore figures given for them cannot be regarded as characteristic of these groups.

<u>Mines Grouped</u> <u>According to</u> <u>Yearly Productivity</u> (1,000 tons)	<u>Monthly Labor</u> <u>Productivity</u>	<u>Production Costs of</u> <u>One Ton of Coal</u>
Up to 50	75	148
50-99	69	134
100-149	72	133
150-199	87	114
200-249	97	106
250-299	100	100
300-349	102	100
350-399	120	87
400-449	125	82
450-499	137	89

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Mines Grouped
According to
Yearly Productivity
(1,000 tons)

Monthly Labor
Productivity

Production Costs of
One Ton of Coal

500-549

156

75

550-599

116

92

600-649

105

92

650-699

155

71

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